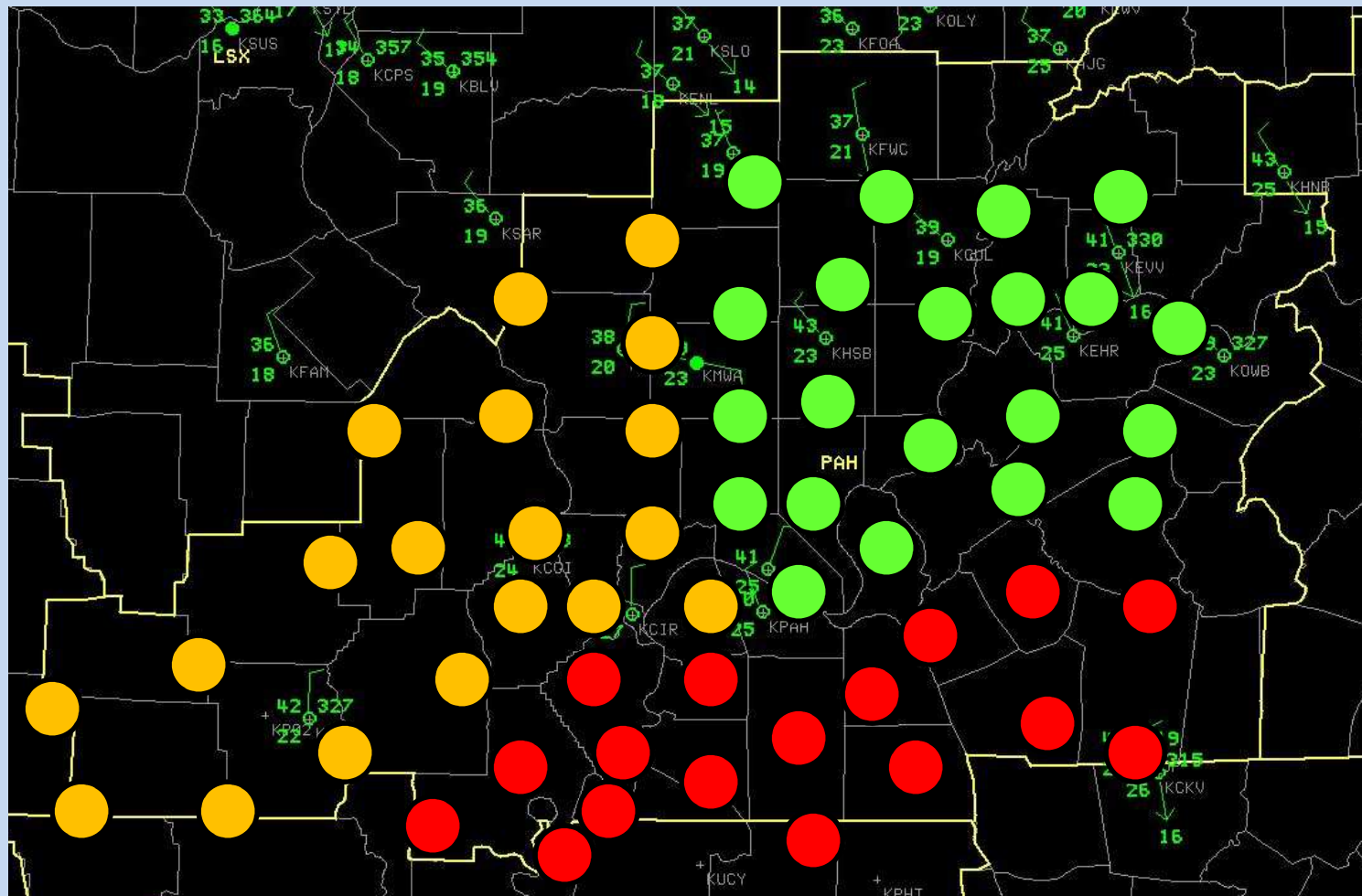


# FREEZE WARNING/FROST ADVISORY

The current guidelines on freeze warnings and frost advisories are based on coordination with many agriculture centers. Current guidelines the NWS in Paducah uses is on the next slide. The three groups mentioned in the text refers to the map below (each colors represents a group):



**Frost:** The deposition of ice crystals directly on the surface of exposed objects. In the right conditions (clear skies, winds less than 6 mph) frost can occur when observed air temperatures are several degrees above freezing.

**Freeze:** When observed air temperatures fall to 32 F or lower.

**Killing Freeze:** When observed air temperatures fall to 30 F or lower for at least two consecutive hours.

**Frost Advisory:** Issued when frost is forecast to occur at 3 or more observation sites in either group 1, 2, or 3.

**Freeze Warning:** Issued when a freeze is expected to occur at 3 or more observation sites in either group 1, 2, or 3.

Frost advisories and freeze warnings are issued as needed during the growing season.

**Spring Start-Up Date for Frost/Freeze Program:**

1) Beginning in March, we initiate weekly contact with UK Agricultural Weather Center and County Extension Agents to determine if the frost/freeze program should begin. 2) Begin the frost/freeze program no later than April 10.

**Fall End Date for Frost/Freeze Program:**

1) End the frost/freeze program for each group once a widespread killing freeze has occurred in that group.  
2) Prior to November 1, the frost/freeze program may be restarted if there has been a lengthy period of unusually warm weather following the first killing freeze. This restart of the program should be coordinated with the UK Agricultural Weather Center and County Extension Agents. The frost/freeze program can only be restarted for frosts/freezes that occur prior to November 1.  
3) The frost/freeze program will continue past November 1 only in those years when there has not been a widespread killing freeze prior to this date. In this situation the program will end for each group once a widespread killing freeze has occurred in that group.

"Widespread" is defined as a majority of observation sites within a given group (1,2,or 3).